Various studies have indicated that a proportion of the subsidized products, i.e., domestic LPG and PDS Kerosene are being diverted for other uses or do not reach the intended beneficiaries.

LPG cylinders through FPS

1226. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to distribute LPG cylinders through fair price shops;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any modalities have been worked out in this regard;

(d) whether Government are also thinking of allotting STD/ISD booths to fair price shops; and

(e) what are the other innovative methods Government are thinking of to increase the monthly income of the owners of the fair price shops and also providing more and more items to people through fair price shops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has not agreed with the proposal as it is not a practical proposition to put domestic LPG in FPS as LPG is not a rationed good. LPG is a purely commercial good marketed by Government Oil Companies through their distributors appointed as per their commercial considerations.

(d) FPSs have been allowed to be used as STD/ISD booths as these booths are allotted liberally to all eligible applicants of 18 years and above age.

(e) At present the Central Government makes available wheat, rice, sugar & K. Oil under the Public Distribution System to the State Government for distribution through the Fair Price Shops (FPS). In order to increase the viability of FPSs, the State Governments have been advised to aHow the FPSs, to deal with other items of daily consumption/ use also. Some States have already allowed sale of such items through the FPSs to increase the monthly income of FPSs.